IN RECOGNITION OF "HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH"

WHEREAS, Homeownership is the American Dream. There is a special power in a neighborhood where most families own their homes. A new homeowner receives a key that does more than unlock a door, it represents a place where children can grow, learn, and feel safe; it creates an opportunity to save money and to build equity for the future; and it provides a sense of stability and belonging to the greater community. Just as it builds strong families, homeownership is the building block of strong communities; and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is working in partnership with state and local governments, community groups, and the private sector to make the most effective use of federal funds. Through a combination of housing counseling, down payment assistance and tax incentives, we are helping thousands of Americans buy homes – and live the lives they had once only imagined; and

WHEREAS, Homeownership is good for the homebuyer, Augusta-Richmond County and our country. It is the American Dream, and during National Homeownership Month, we rededicate ourselves to that dream and to every American who seeks to achieve it; and

WHEREAS, The Augusta Department of Housing and Neighborhood Development will continue to assist this jurisdiction toward efforts to increase homeownership and homebuying opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Young, Mayor of the City of Augusta, do hereby proclaim the month of June 2003 as "AUGUSTA, GEORGIA HOMEOWNERSHIP MONTH" and urge all citizens to join us in recognizing Homeownership and the importance of providing every citizen with the opportunity to achieve their own American Dream.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Augusta, Georgia to be affixed this 2nd day of June 2003.